IN
LUTHER'S SMALL CATECHISM
AND
BIBLE HISTORY

**GRADE IV** 





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IN

LUTHER'S SMALL CATECHISM TEXTBOOK FOR GRADE FOUR

#### FOR THE SUNDAY SCHOOLS

Published by the Augustana Synod.

A series of textbooks for the Eight Grades, with the Catechism as the basis for the entire course; illustrated and amplified by stories from the Bible, and systematically adapted to the needs of the various ages of childhood. Both material and method conform to the recognized standards in modern education.

#### BEGINNERS' COURSE:

Beginners' Course in the Sunday School, Nordgren. Mountable Pictures.

For the Beginners to Remember.

#### PRIMARY COURSE:

Primary Course in the Sunday School, Nordgren. Primary Lesson Leaves. For the Primary Child to Remember.

#### INTERMEDIATE COURSE:

Grade III: Graded Lessons in Luther's Small Catechism. Grade IV: Graded Lessons in Luther's Small Catechism (concluded).

Grade V: Graded Lessons in Larger Catechism.

Grade VI: Graded Lessons in Larger Catechism (concluded).

Grade VII: Graded Lessons in Larger Catechism and Bible History, Old Testament,

Grade VIII: Graded Lessons in Larger Catechism and Bible History, New Testament.

#### CONFIRMATION COURSE:

Brief Course in Church Liturgy, Church Year, and Lutheran Hymnody.

IN

LUTHER'S SMALL CATECHISM

AND

BIBLE HISTORY

WITH ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURE SELECTIONS

### GRADE IV

INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT

OF

SUNDAY SCHOOLS

BY GEO. A. FAHLUND

PUBLISHED BY
THE AUGUSTANA SYNOD

ROCK ISLAND, ILL.
AUGUSTANA BOOK CONCERN

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Seventh Edition

ROCK ISLAND, ILL.
AUGUSTANA BOOK CONCERN, PRINTERS AND BINDERS
1931

#### PREFACE.

This is the second volume, or Grade IV, for the Intermediate Department.

This volume of lessons has been prepared in accordance with the system of grading adopted by the Augustana Synod in 1922. The course of instruction is divided into four departments—Beginner's, Primary, Intermediate and Confirmation. However, the grades begin with the Primary Department and run through the Intermediate, eight grades in all.

In the Intermediate Department, we have followed a plan of uniform courses, with the Catechism as the basis of the entire plan. The lessons in all grades have the same doctrinal element on a given Sunday. The Catechism is divided into six separate volumes, one volume for each grade, containing fifty-two lessons (six special and forty-six regular) — one lesson for each Sunday.

In Grades III and IV, inclusive, Bible stories are used to illustrate and explain Luther's Small Catechism. To each lesson is appended a short Bible text and a verse from some hymn, all to be memorized by the pupils; also a few questions on the Bible Story to be answered in writing. The short note at the end of each lesson is to suggest to the teacher the central thought to be emphasized.

In Grades V, VI, VII and VIII, the Catechism text is the Explanation of Luther's Small Catechism, adopted by the Augustana Synod in 1922. The Bible Stories throughout the courses have been selected from "Bible Stories" and "Bible History," published by Augustana Book Concern in 1918 and 1898, and direct from the Bible, the American Standard Version.

In preparing these series of lessons the author appreciates the valuable suggestions received from John W. Horine's "The Catechist's Handbook"; Gerberding's "The Lutheran Catechist"; Joseph Stump's "Explanation on Luther's Small Catechism"; H. P. Grimsby's "Graded Lessons on the Catechism"; Rev. Geo. W. Lose's "Catechism Bible Narratives"; Adolph T. Hanser's "Book of Instruction"; and "Handledning för Den Första Kristendomsundervisningen" af F. A. Johansson, but especially does he feel indebted to the members of the Sunday School Committee — Drs. G. A. Brandelle, John Ekholm, C. W. Foss, F. A. Johnsson, Rev. C. A. Wendell and Mr. A. G. Anderson, for valuable suggestions, kind co-operation and wise counsel.

GEO. A. FAHLUND,

Sunday School Secretary of the Augustana Synod.

Rock Island, Ill., December, 1922.

#### SUGGESTIONS

- 1. The teacher should study each Bible Story in connection with the brief note appended to the lesson which suggests the main thought to be emphasized. The teacher should also follow all Bible references and read the Story as given in the Bible. The Bible text and hymn verse will also serve to clarify the doctrinal part of the lesson. It is further necessary that the teacher knows the Catechism well.
- 2. Remember that in grades III to VI, inclusive, the Bible Story is to illustrate and explain the doctrinal elements of the Catechism to the child's mind; that it is necessary that these doctrinal facts, embodied in the Bible Story, be presented in their historical setting and made alive to the child's fancy by means of attractive pictorial representation.
- 3. All the pupils in the class should study the same lesson, and a pupil who has been absent one or more Sundays should be assigned the same lesson as the other members of the class. Lessons that have been missed should be made up by pupils in addition to the regular class work.
- 4. The pupils in grades III to VI, inclusive, are to turn in written answers to the questions on the Bible Story. If the pupils have worked out the answers in writing, they have become familiar with the Bible Story and have a good background for the lesson. The pupils must memorize the Catechism part, the Bible Text, and the Memory Verse.
- 5. Begin the recitation with a review of the preceding lesson. Reviewing former lessons is an excellent exercise. Proceed with the lesson for the day by asking the pupils to recite the parts to be memorized. Then *tell* the Bible Story and apply it to the Catechism part. Always endeavor to draw the hearts of the pupils to Christ.
- Each class should consist of not more than six pupils, and boys and girls should be enrolled in separate classes.

#### THE BIBLE.

#### LESSON 1.



No prophecy ever came by the will of man; but men spake from God, being moved by the Holy Spirit. 2 Pet. 1. 21.

Every scripture inspired of God is also profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction which is in righteousness: that the man of God may be complete, furnished completely unto every good work. 2 Tim. 3. 16, 17.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; but the Word of our God shall stand forever. Is. 40. 8.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

The Bible! the Bible! blest volume of truth, How sweetly it smiles on the season of youth! It bids us seek early the pearl of great price, Ere the heart is enslaved in the bondage of vice.

Questions. 1. Why is the Bible called the Book, or the book of books? (It is the most important of all books and God's Word). 2. Who told the men who wrote the Bible, what they should write? 3. What is the Bible profitable for? 4. What are the two great parts of the Bible? (The Old and the New Testament). 5. Which part was written after Jesus had returned to heaven? 6. How many books does the Bible contain? (66 books.) 7. How many books in the Old Testament? (39 books.) 8. How many books in the New Testament? (27 books.) 9. What does our Bible text say about God's Word?

Note. Emphasize that the Bible is the Word of God. The knowledge of God which men gain from their own conscience and from nature is insufficient. It is only from the Bible that we can learn the Way of Salvation which God has prepared for us in Jesus Christ.

See Jn. 20. 31.

#### THE LAW.

#### LESSON 2.

#### THE GIVING OF THE LAW.



In the third month after the departure from Egypt the children of Israel came to Sinai. This was a high, steep, rocky mountain in the wilderness. And God told Moses to set bounds round about the mountain, so that nobody should come and touch it; and the people were to pray, and wait for the holy and awful thing that was to happen. On the third day there were thunders and lightnings, and the voice of the trumpet. And the Lord descended upon the mount and spoke the Ten Commandments.

And Moses wrote all the words of the Lord and built

an altar under the hill and offered sacrifices to the Lord. And Moses came and they said, "All that Jehovah has said will we do."

At the command of the Lord Moses went up into the midst of the

cloud on the mount and remained there forty days and forty nights. There the Lord gave him the Ten Commandments, written with the finger of God on two tables of stone. (Ex. 19, 20, 24, 31, 18.)

#### BIBLE TEXT.

If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments. Jn. 14. 15.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Lord Jesus Christ, Thy power make known;
For Thou art Lord of lords alone:
Defend Thy Christendom, that we
May evermore sing praise to Thee.

(New Hymnal 220. 2.)

Questions. 1. In what month did the children of Israel come to Sinai? 2. What country had they come from? 3. Why did God tell Moses to set bounds around the mountain? 4. What happened on the third day? 5. What did the Lord speak when He descended upon the mount? 6. When Moses had written all the words of the Lord, what did he do? 7. When Moses came and told the people all the words of Jehovah, what did they say? 8. How long did Moses remain on the mount? 9. Who had written the Ten Commandments on the two tables of stone that the Lord gave Moses?

Note. God Himself wrote the Ten Commandments. Hence God considers them holy and important. God's law is God's will. We must keep God's commandments. If we break God's commandments, we are sinners. Our inability to keep the law shows our need of Christ.

See Ex. 19-24.

#### THE TEN COMMANDMENTS.

#### LESSON 3.

THE FIRST COMMANDMENT.

I am the Lord thy God.
Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

What is meant by this commandment? We should fear, love and trust in God above all things.

#### THE GOLDEN CALF.



When Moses stayed so long on the mountain, the people went to Aaron and said: "Make a god for us, who can go before us; because we do not know what has become of Moses." Then Aaron took their earrings and made a calf of the gold and said, "This

is your god, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt." And they worshiped the golden calf and danced around it.

When Moses came down from the mountain with the tables of

stone in his hands and saw the calf and the people dancing around it, he became very angry and threw the tables of stone on the rocks and broke them. Then he burnt the calf and ground it into powder which he put into water and made the people drink it. The tribe of Levi killed three thousand of those who had worshiped the golden calf. But when God said He would destroy them all, Moses prayed for them and said: "Thy people have done a great wrong. But forgive them their sin. If not, strike out my name from Thy book." Then the Lord forgave the people. And He told Moses to make two new tables of stone. On these the Lord wrote the same commandments that He had written on the tables that were broken. Ex. 32, 34.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

Little children, keep yourselves from idols. I Jn. 5. 21.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

The dearest idol I have known,
Whate'er that idol be,
Help me to tear it from Thy throne,
And worship only Thee.

(New Hymnal 456. 3.)

Questions. 1. What did the people ask Aaron, the brother of Moses. to do? 2. What did Aaron do? 3. What did Aaron say about the golden calf? 4. What did the people do? 5. When Moses came down from the mountain, what did he do with the tables of stone? 6. What did he do with the calf? 7. What did the tribe of Levi do? 8. What did the Lord write on the two new tables of stone that Moses made?

Note. Point out the danger of turning away from God to idols such as money, earthly possessions, pleasure, friends, etc. God must be first and foremost in our hearts.

#### LESSON 4.

THE SECOND COMMANDMENT.

Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

What is meant by this commandment?

We should so fear and love God, as not to curse, swear, conjure, lie or deceive by His name, but call upon Him in every time of need, and worship Him with prayer, praise and thanksgiving.

#### ANANIAS AND SAPPHIRA.



A certain man named Ananias and his wife Sapphira sold a possession and kept back a part of the price. Ananias brought a part of the price and laid it at the apostles' feet. But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thy heart to

lie to the Holy Spirit, and to keep back part of the price of the land? Thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God. And Ananias hearing these words fell down and gave up the ghost; and great fear came upon all that heard it. And the young men carried him out and buried him.

And in about three hours Sapphira, not knowing what was done, came in. And Peter answered unto her, Tell me whether ye sold the land for so much. And she said, Yea, for so much. But Peter said unto her, How is it that ye have agreed together to try the Spirit of the Lord? Behold the feet of them that buried thy husband are at the door, and they shall carry thee out. And she fell down immediately at his feet, and gave up the ghost: and the young men came in and found her dead, and they carried her out and buried her by her husband. (Acts 5. I—II.)

#### BIBLE TEXT.

Holy and reverend is his name. Ps. 111. 9.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Praise the God of our salvation,

Hosts on high His power proclaim;

Heaven and earth, and all creation,

Laud and magnify His name.

(New Hymnal 292, 4.)

Questions. 1. What did Ananias and Sapphira sell? 2. What evils did Peter say they had committed? 3. What happened to Ananias? 4. Who buried him? 5. What did Peter answer unto Sapphira when she came in? 6. What did she say? 7. What did Peter say unto her? 8. What happened to Sapphira?

Note. God's name is holy and reverend. We must not "lie or deceive" by God's name. When we say, "God knows that this is so," we appeal to God as witness; that is swearing by God's name. Show how His name may be rightly used.

#### LESSON 5.

THE THIRD COMMANDMENT.

#### Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.

What is meant by this commandment? We should so fear and love God, as not to despise His Word and the preaching of the gospel, but deem it holy, and willingly hear and learn it.

#### JESUS IN THE TEMPLE.



And his parents went every year to Jerusalem at the feast of the passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up after the custom of the feast; and when they had fulfilled the days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and his parents knew it not; but supposing him to be in the company they went a day's journey; and they sought for him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance: and when they found him not, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking for him. And it came to pass, after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both hearing them, and asking them questions: and all that heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when they saw him, they were astonished; and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I sought thee sorrowing. And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? knew ye not that I must be in my Father's house? And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them. And he went down with them, to Nazareth, and he was subject unto them: and his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.

And Jesus advanced in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men. (Lk. 2. 41-52.)

#### BIBLE TEXT.

Knew ye not that I must be in my Father's house? Lk. 2. 49.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Sunday full of holy glory!
Sweetest rest-day of our soul!
Light upon a world of darkness
From thy blessed moments roll!
Holy, happy, heavenly day,
Thou canst charm our grief away. (S. S. B. 63.2.)

Questions. 1. How old was Jesus when He was permitted to go with His parents up to the feast of the passover in Jerusalem the first time? 2. When the parents started on their way home where was Jesus? 3. Where did His parents suppose He was? 4. When they found Him not among their kinsfolk and acquaintance, where did they go? 5. How soon did the parents find Him in the temple? 6. What was Jesus doing in the temple? 7. What did His mother say to Him? 8. What did Jesus say?

Note. Every adult male was required to attend at least three of the festivals in Jerusalem each year. The age of twelve was considered the age of maturity. It was the duty as well as a privilege of Jesus to accompany His parents at this time. — Jesus no doubt attended the synagogue at home every Sabbath. Jesus gives all children a worthy example to go to church, to listen to the Word of God, to ask questions, and to answer questions put to them. Going to church helps children to increase in wisdom, and in favor with God and men.

#### LESSON 6.

THE FOURTH COMMANDMENT.

Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

What is meant by this commandment? We should so fear and love God, as not to despise nor displease our parents and superiors, but honor, serve, obey, love and esteem them.

#### KORAH'S REBELLION.



Korah, of the tribe of Levi, and Dathan and Abiram, of the tribe of Reuben, with two hundred and fifty princes of the congregation, rebelled against the Lord. They said to Moses and Aaron,

All the congregation are holy, every one of them; wherefore then lift ye up yourselves above the congregation of the Lord? Korah desired the priesthood. But at the command of the Lord Moses said to the

people, Depart from the tents of these wicked men, lest ye be consumed in all their sins! The people obeyed; and the earth opened her mouth and swallowed the rebellious people and all those that were with Korah. Then the Lord commanded Moses to lay one rod for each tribe before the ark of the covenant. On the rod of Levi Aaron's name was written. The following morning this rod was budded. Moses, according to the command of the Lord, brought it again into the Most Holy, to be kept there for a token that God had chosen Aaron and his house for the priesthood.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

Obey them that have rule over you, and submit yourselves; for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief; for that is unprofitable for you. Heb. 13. 17.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Make me, Lord, obedient, mild, As becomes a little child, All day long, in every way, Teach me what to do and say. (S. S. B. 133, 5.)

Questions. 1. Were Korah, Dathan, and Abiram good or wicked men? 2. What were the positions of Moses and Aaron? (Leader and high-priest.) 3. What did Korah desire? 4. What did the Lord command Moses to say to the people? 5. What happened to Korah and all those that were with him? 6. What did the Lord then command Moses to do? 7. What was written on Levi's rod? 8. What happened to this rod during the night? 9. What did Moses do with this rod?

Note. Show that disobedient children are never respected by good people. The sin against this commandment is one of the most serious and shameful of all sins. — No blessing is more certain than the one God promises to obedient children.

See Num. 1, 13, 14, 17, 32, 10.

#### LESSON 7.

THE FIFTH COMMANDMENT.

#### Thou shalt not kill.

What is meant by this commandment? We should so fear and love God, as not to do our neighbor any bodily harm or injury, but rather assist and comfort him in danger and want.

#### JOSEPH SOLD BY HIS BROTHERS.



Jacob loved Joseph more than he did his other sons and gave him a fine coat of many colors. And Joseph told his father all the wicked things that his brothers did. Therefore they hated Joseph and could not speak kindly to him.

Once Joseph dreamed that he and his brothers were out in the field binding sheaves of grain, and

their sheaves stood around his sheaf and bowed down before it. At another time he dreamed that the sun and the moon and eleven stars bowed down before him. When he told his brothers what he had dreamed, they hated him still more and said, Shalt thou indeed rule over us? or shalt thou indeed have dominion over us? He was then seventeen years of age.

Later on when his brothers were tending sheep away from home, Jacob sent Joseph to see how they were getting along. When they saw him coming, they said, Behold, this dreamer cometh. Come, let us slay him, and cast him into one of the pits, and we will say, An evil beast hath devoured him: and we shall see what will become of his dreams. But Reuben, the oldest brother, wishing to save Joseph, proposed that they should throw him into a dry well instead. He intended to take him out when the others did not see it, and send him home to his father. So when Joseph came into the camp they tore off his beautiful coat and threw him into the pit. And they sat down to eat bread and they looked up and saw a company of Ishmaelites riding by on their camels. Then Judah said, Let us sell him to the Ishmaelites. And they pulled him up out of the pit and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. Gen. 37.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer. 1 Jn. 3. 15.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Jesus loves me! This I know, For the Bible tells me so; Little ones to Him belong, They are weak, but He is strong. (S. S. B. 98. 1.)

Questions. 1. How did Jacob show that he loved Joseph more than he did his other sons? 2. Did the other sons love or hate Joseph? 3. How many dreams did Joseph have? 4. When Joseph came to see how his brothers were getting along, what did they say when they saw him 'coming? 5. What did Reuben propose? 6. Why? 7. What did Judah say when the Ishmaelites came? 8. What did they finally do with Joseph?

*Note.* Show the danger of hating anyone. Hatred fills the heart with evil thoughts and causes us to speak evil of our brother, or to him, and may lead us to do our brother personal injury. Apply Bible text.

#### LESSON 8.

THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT.

#### Thou shalt not commit adultery.

What is meant by this commandment?

We should so fear and love God, as to be chaste and pure in our words and deeds, each one also loving and honoring his wife or her husband.

#### JOSEPH AND POTIPHAR'S WIFE.



The Ishmaelites brought Joseph down to Egypt and sold him to Potiphar, the captain of the guard of Pharaoh, and he was a prosperous man. And his master made him overseer over his house, and over all that he had, and Jehovah blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of Jehovah was upon all that he had, in the house and in the field. And it came to pass after these things, that his master's wife cast her eyes upon Joseph; and she said, Lie with me. But he refused, and said unto

his master's wife, How can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?

And when his master came home she spake unto him, saying, The Hebrew servant, whom thou hast brought unto us, came in unto me

to mock me. And it came to pass, when his master heard the words of his wife, which she spake unto him, saying, After this manner did thy servant to me; that his wrath was kindled. And Joseph's master took him, and put him into the prison, the place where the king's prisoners were bound: and he was there in the prison. But Jehovah was with Joseph, and showed kindness unto him, and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison. And the keeper of the prison committed to Joseph's hand all the prisoners that were in the prison; and whatsoever they did there, he was the doer of it. (Gen. 39.)

#### BIBLE TEXT.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Mt. 5. 8.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Shine on our souls, eternal God!
With rays of beauty shine;
O let Thy favor crown our days,
And all their round be Thine.
(New Hymnal 471. 1.)

Questions. 1. To what country did the Ishmaelites bring Joseph? 2. To whom did they sell him there? 3. Who was with Joseph even here to bless him? 4. How did the master show his faith in Joseph? 5. Who tried to tempt Joseph to commit a great sin? 6. What did Joseph say to Potiphar's wife? 7. What did this wicked woman say to her husband? 8. What did the master do to Joseph?

Note. Show that Joseph was a God-fearing young man, and that God was with him and blessed him; that he was trusted and liked by everybody. Because he was "pure in heart" (Bible text), he had power to flee temptation, and heed God's word (Sixth Commandment). Impure thoughts and desires poison the soul and weaken the mind. — Bad company may cause us trouble (even prison) for not joining them in wickedness, but God will be with those who flee sin, and will bless them.

#### LESSON 9.

THE SEVENTH COMMANDMENT.

#### Thou shalt not steal.

What is meant by this commandment?

We should so fear and love God,

as not to rob our neighbor of his money or property, nor bring it into our possession by unfair dealing or fraudulent means,

but rather assist him to improve and protect it.

#### ABRAM DELIVERS LOT.



The kings of Shinar, of Ellasar, of Elam, and of Goiim, made war on the kings of Sodom, of Gomorrah, of Admah, of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela. Four kings against five, and the four kings defeated the five kings and took all their vict-

uals, and went their way. And they took Lot, Abram's brother's son, who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.

And there came one that had escaped, and told Abram (Abraham). And when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he led forth his trained men, born in his house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued as far as Dan. And he divided himself against them by night, he and his servants, and smote them, and pursued them unto

Hobah. And he brought back all the goods, and also brought back his brother Lot, and his goods, and the women also, and the people. And the king of Sodom said unto Abram, Give me the persons, and take the goods to thyself. And Abram said, I have lifted up my hand unto Jehovah, God Most High, possessor of heaven and earth, that I will not take a thread nor a shoe-latchet nor aught that is thine, lest thou shouldest say, I have made Abram rich: save only that which the young men have eaten, and the portion of the men that went with me, Aner, Eshcol and Mamre, let them take their portion. Gen. 14.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

Not looking each of you to his own things, but each of you also to the things of others. Phil. 2. 4.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

May I in virtue and in faith,
And with Thy gifts content,
Rejoice beneath Thy covering wings,
Each day in mercy sent.

(New Hymnal 545. 3.)

Questions. 1. What did the four kings who defeated the five kings take in Sodom and Gomorrah? 2. What man in Sodom did they take captive? 3. How did Abram find out about it? 4. How many trained men did Abram have? 5. After he had defeated the enemy, what did he bring back? 6. What did the king of Sodom say unto Abram? 7. What promise had Abram made to Jehovah? 8. What three men mentioned had been with Abram?

Note. "To steal is nothing else than to get another's property wrongfully into our possession" (LUTHER). This can be done by or from an individual, by or from a corporation; by force (robbery); unfair dealings (theft); fraudulently, cunningly (fraud).—Abram overpowered Lot's enemies and brought Lot and his possessions back. We should befriend and assist our neighbor by our advice and aid. (Heb. 13. 16.)

#### LESSON 10.

THE EIGHTH COMMANDMENT.

#### Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

What is meant by this commandment?

We should so fear and love God,

as not deceitfully to belie, betray, slander, nor raise injurious reports against our neighbor,

but apologize for him, speak well of him, and put the most charitable construction on all his actions.

#### GAMALIEL'S ADVICE.



By the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people. And there also came together the multitude from the cities round about Jerusalem, bringing sick folk, and them that were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one. But the high priest and all they that were with him were filled with jealousy, and laid hands on the apostles, and put them in public ward. But an angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said. Go ve. and stand and speak in the temple all the words of this Life. And there came one and said, Behold, the men

whom ye put in the prison are in the temple standing and teaching the people. Then were the apostles brought before the council. But Peter and the apostles said, We must obey God rather than men.

When they heard this they were minded to slay them.

But there stood up one in the council, a Pharisee, named Gamaliel, a doctor of the law, had in honor of all the people, and commanded to put the men forth a little while. And he said unto them: "Ye men of Israel, take heed to yourselves as touching these men, what ye are about to do. For before these days rose up Theudas, giving himself out to be somebody; to whom a number of men, about four hundred, joined themselves; who was slain; and all, as many as obeyed him, were dispersed, and came to nought. And after this man rose up Judas of Galilee in the days of enrolment, and drew away some of the people after him; he also perished; and all, as many as obeyed him, were scattered abroad. And now I say unto you, Refrain from these men, and let them alone; for if this counsel or this work be of men, it will be overthrown; but if it is of God, ye will not be able to overthrow them; lest haply ye be found even to be fighting against God." And to him they agreed. (Acts 5.)

#### BIBLE TEXT.

Putting away falsehood, speak ye truth each one with his neighbor: for we are members one of another. Eph. 4.25.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Angry words! oh, let them never From the tongue unbridled slip; May the heart's best impulse ever Check them ere they soil the lip. (L. L. Hymnal 191.1.)

Questions. 1. What did the apostles do to the sick folk and those vexed with unclean spirits? 2. Who put the apostles in public ward (prison)? 3. Who opened the prison doors? 4. What did the angel tell the apostles to do? 5. What did Peter say before the council? 6. What were the men of the council minded to do? 7. Who spoke "well and excusing" of the apostles?

Note. We should always put the best construction on all we may hear of our neighbor. However, we must be careful not to excuse or make light of sin. If we cannot speak well of our neighbor, better not speak of him at all.

#### LESSON 11.

THE NINTH COMMANDMENT.

#### Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house.

What is meant by this commandment?

We should so fear and love God,

as not to desire by craftiness to gain possession of our neighbor's inheritance or home, or to obtain it under the pretext of a legal right, but be ready to assist and serve him in the preservation of his own.

#### NABOTH'S VINEYARD.



And it came to pass, that Naboth had a vineyard hard by the palace of Ahab, king of Samaria. And Ahab spake unto Naboth, saying, Give me thy vineyard, because it is near unto my house; and I will give thee

for it a better vineyard than it: or I will give thee the worth of it in money. And Naboth said, Jehovah forbid it me, that I should give the inheritance of my fathers unto thee. And Ahab came into his house heavy and displeased, for Naboth had said, I will not give thee the inheritance of my fathers.

But Jezebel his wife said unto him, Let thy heart be merry: I will give thee the vineyard of Naboth. So she wrote letters in Ahab's name, and sent the letters unto the elders and to the nobles, saying, Proclaim a fast, and set Naboth on high among the people: and set two men, base fellows, before him, and let them bear witness against him saying, Thou didst curse God and the king. And then carry him out, and stone him to death.

And the elders and the nobles did as Jezebel had commanded, and they carried Naboth out of the city, and stoned him to death with stones. And Jezebel said to Ahab, Arise, take possession of the vine-yard, for Naboth is dead. And Ahab rose up to go down to the vine-yard of Naboth, to take possession of it. And there Elijah met him and said, Thus saith Jehovah, Hast thou killed, and also taken possession? In the place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth shall dogs lick thy blood. This was fulfilled after a few years. See I K. 21.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

Godliness with contentment is great gain. I Tim. 6. 6.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Father, guide our steps aright In the way that Jesus trod; May it be our great delight To obey Thy will, O God! Then to us shall soon be given Endless bliss with Christ in heaven. (S. S. B. 115.4.)

Questions. 1. Why did Ahab the king want Naboth's vineyard? 2. Why did not Naboth wish to sell it? 3. What did Jezebel say to the king? 4. To whom did this wicked woman send letters in Ahab's name? 5. What did the elders and the nobles finally do with Naboth? 6. When Naboth had been stoned to death, what did Jezebel say to Ahab? 7. Whom did Ahab meet when he went to take possession of the vineyard? 8. What did Elijah say?

Note. Ahab did no wrong in wanting to buy Naboth's vineyard. But when Naboth refused to sell it (which would have been unlawful; Lev. 25.23; Num. 36.7—9), he had no right to insist upon it.— Jezebel worked a shrewd, sinful scheme through which they might get Naboth's vineyard by a show of right, according to their rule, that when a person was stoned for blaspheming God, his property would fall to the king.

God did not let this gross sin go unpunished.

#### LESSON 12.

#### THE TENTH COMMANDMENT.

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbor's.

What is meant by this commandment?

We should so fear and love God,

as not to alienate our neighbor's wife from him, entice away his servants, nor let loose his cattle,

but use our endeavors that they may remain and discharge their duty to him.

#### DAVID'S SIN AND REPENTANCE.



During one of his wars, David tarried at Jerusalem. And it came to pass at eventide, that David from off the roof of his house saw a beautiful woman, Bath-sheba, the wife of Uriah.

And David wrote a letter to Joab, his captain, saying, Set ye Uriah in the fore-

front of the hottest battle, that he may be smitten and die. Joab did as David had commanded, and Uriah was killed. And David took Bath-sheba to his house, and she became his wife, and bore him a son.

But Jehovah sent Nathan unto David, and he said unto him, There were two men in one city; the one rich, and the other poor. The rich man had exceeding many flocks and herds; but the poor man had nothing, save one little lamb; it did eat of his own morsel, and drank of his own cup, and lay in his bosom. And there came a traveler unto the rich man, and he spared to take of his own flock, but took the poor man's lamb, and dressed it for the man that was come to him. And David said to Nathan, As Jehovah liveth, the man that hath done this is worthy to die. Nathan said to David, Thou art the man. Thou hast smitten Uriah and hast taken his wife. Behold, I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own house. And David repented and said unto Nathan, I have sinned against Jehovah. And Nathan said unto David, Jehovah also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die. Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of Jehovah to blaspheme, the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die. (2 Sam. 11—12.)

#### BIBLE TEXT.

Love worketh no ill to his neighbor. Rom. 13. 10.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Thus shall we best proclaim abroad The honors of our Saviour God; When His salvation reigns within, And grace subdues the power of sin.

(New Hymnal 459. 2.)

Questions. 1. Who was the woman that David saw? 2. Why did David have Uriah sent into the hottest battle? 3. When Uriah had been killed, what did David do? 4. Who sent Nathan unto David? 5. When Nathan said to David, "Thou art the man," what did David answer? 6. How was David punished?

Note. The word covet means the same as desire. We transgress the Tenth Commandment when we have even the least evil desire in our hearts for that which is our neighbor's — We should heartily endeavor to help our neighbor to keep all that is his own.

#### LESSON 13.

What does God declare concerning all these commandments? He says:

I the Lord thy God am a jealous God,

visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;

and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

What is meant by this declaration?

God threatens to punish all those who transgress these commandments;

we should, therefore, dread His displeasure, and not act contrarily to these commandments.

#### THE DOWNFALL OF THE KINGDOM OF ISRAEL.



The kings and people of Israel kept on worshiping false gods and doing evil in the sight of the Lord. When the prophets warned them, they did not listen to them, and when these same men of God promised that He would show mercy to those

who returned to Him, they only mocked them. So when the Lord had been patient with them for more than two hundred and fifty years, He had to let the punishment come. Shalmaneser, the king of Assyria, came up against Samaria and after a siege of three years took the city and carried away the people into captivity. And the Lord rejected all the seed of Israel, so that they never returned from their captivity.

In their place He sent people from Assyria, who settled in the land, and married among the few Israelites who were left. In this way there came to be a mixed race of people in Samaria. They served God in a way, but also worshiped idols. Later on these people were called Samaritans. 2 K. 17, 23-25; 2 Chr. 36.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

Be not deceived. God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth. that shall he also reap. Gal. 6. 7.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Wide as the world is Thy command, Vast as eternity Thy love; Firm as a rock Thy truth must stand, When rolling years shall cease to move.

(New Hymnal 290. 5.)

Questions. 1. Which commandment did the kings and the people break when they worshiped false gods? 2. When the prophets warned them, how did they act? 3. When the same men of God promised that God would show mercy to those who returned, what did the kings and people do? 4. How long was the Lord patient with them? 5. Then what did He do? 6. What did Shalmaneser do? 7. What people did the king send to settle in the land? 8. Later on what were these people called?

Note. The fall of the kingdom of Israel took place 721 B. C. For location of Assyria, see maps. - If we despise God and His Word, God's patience will end, and some calamity will come upon us. Apply Bible text.

# LESSON 14.

What does God declare concerning all these commandments? He says:

I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

# What is meant by this declaration?

God threatens to punish all those who transgress these commandments;

we should, therefore, dread his displeasure, and not act contrarily to these commandments.

But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep them; we should, therefore, love and trust in Him, and cheerfully do what He has commanded us.

# THE RIGHTEOUS AND THE WICKED CONTRASTED.

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the wicked,
Nor standeth in the way of sinners,
Nor sitteth in the seat of scoffers:
But his delight is in the law of Jehovah;
And on his law doth he meditate day and night.
And he shall be like a tree planted by the streams of water,
That bringeth forth its fruit in its season,
Whose leaf also doth not wither;
And whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.
The wicked are not so,
But are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.

Therefore the wicked shall not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For Jehovah knoweth the way of the righteous; But the way of the wicked shall perish. Ps. 1.

## BIBLE TEXT.

The fear of Jehovah is the beginning of wisdom. Prov. 9. 10.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

How shall the young secure their hearts, And guard their lives from sin? Thy Word the choicest rules imparts To keep the conscience clean.

(New Hymnal 223. 1.)

Questions. 1. Name three things a "blessed man" must not do. 2. Wherein is his delight? 3. How often does he meditate on God's law? 4. What is the righteous manlikened unto? 5. What is the wicked likened unto? 6. What is said of the way of the righteous? 7. What shall happen to the way of the wicked?

Note. God hates sin and will punish it, but He loves obedience and will reward it.—"All commandments require love, if they are done without love, they remain unfulfilled, although the outward works are done." God looks to the heart.—It never pays "to sow wild oats." Apply Bible text.



# THE ARTICLES OF FAITH. THE CREED.

## LESSON 15.

BAPTISM OF JESUS.



Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to the Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. But John would have hindered him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? But Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it now: for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness. Then he suffereth him. And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway from the water: and lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove, and

coming upon him, and lo, a voice out of the heavens, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Mt. 3. 13-17.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. 2 Cor. 13. 14.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

To God the Father, Son,
And Spirit, One in Three,
Be glory, as it was, is now,
And shall forever be.

Dox. 3.

Questions. 1. Where did Jesus go to be baptized? 2. What did John say? 3. What did Jesus answer him? 4. When the heavens opened, who descended as a dove upon Jesus? 5. Whose voice was heard out of the heavens? (God the Father's voice.) 6. What did the voice say?

Note. God is one, but in the divine being there is an eternal trinity; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. — Each person of the Godhead is distinctly marked in our Bible Story: the Father's voice, Jesus the Son is baptized, the Holy Spirit is descending as a dove. See also Bible text. — The Apostles' Creed contains in a brief summary the doctrines which the apostles taught. In our Catechism the Apostles' Creed is given in Three Articles. Point out their meaning.—"The Father planned our salvation, the Son carried it out, and the Holy Spirit applies it to us and enables us to enjoy it."

## LESSON 16.

THE FIRST ARTICLE.

Of God the Father and the Creation.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

# What is meant by this article?

I believe that God has created me and all that exists; that He has given and still preserves to me my body and soul, with all my limbs and senses, my reason and all the faculties of my mind.

# MAN AND PARADISE.



And Jehovah God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. And Jehovah God planted a garden eastward, in Eden. And out of the ground made Jehovah God to

grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. And Jehovah God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And Jehovah God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou

shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

And Jehovah God said, It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a help meet for him. And Jehovah God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof: and the rib, which Jehovah God had taken from the man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. And the man said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh. Gen. 2.

#### BIRLE TEXT.

O Jehovah, how manifold are thy works! In wisdom hast thou made them all: The earth is full of thy riches. Ps. 104. 24.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Come, worship at His throne;
Come, bow before the Lord.
We are His work, and not our own,
He formed us by His Word.
(New Hymnal 294. 3.)

Questions. 1. How did man become a living soul? 2. Where did God plant the garden? 3. How were the trees made? 4. Name two special trees mentioned in the lesson. 5. Why did God put man in the garden of Eden? 6. Of which tree did God say "thou shalt not eat"? 7. Why? 8. What did God cause to fall upon the man? 9. How was the woman Eve made?

Note. God has created all. He formed man of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. This makes man superior to all other creatures.—Eve became bone of Adam's bones, and flesh of his flesh, hence the human race is superior to all other forms of life on earth.

#### LESSON 17.

THE FIRST ARTICLE.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

# What is meant by this article?

I believe that God has created me and all that exists; that He has given me body and soul, with all my limbs and senses, my reason and all the faculties of my mind,

together with my raiment, food, home, and family, and all my property; that He daily provides me abundantly with all the necessaries of life;

protects me from all danger, and preserves me and guards me against all evil.

## GOD PROVIDES.



And he came forth and saw a great multitude, and he had compassion on them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd: and he began to

teach them many things. And when the day was now far spent, his disciples came unto him, and said, The place is desert, and the day is now far spent; send them away, that they may go into the country and villages round about, and buy themselves somewhat to eat. But he answered and said unto them, Give ye them to eat. And they say

unto him, Shall we go and buy two hundred shillings' worth of bread, and give them to eat? And he saith unto them, How many loaves have ye? go and see. And when they knew, they say, Five, and two fishes. And he commanded them that all should sit down by companies upon the green grass. And they sat down in ranks, by hundreds, and by fifties. And he took the five loaves and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed, and brake the loaves; and he gave to the disciples to set before them; and the two fishes divided he among them all. And they all ate, and were filled. And they took up broken pieces, twelve basketfuls, and also of the fishes. And they that ate the loaves were five thousand men. Mk. 6. 34–44.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

He maketh his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sendeth rain on the just and the unjust. Mt. 5. 45.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

The Lord my Shepherd is,
I shall be well supplied:
Since He is mine, and I am His,
What can I want beside?
(New Hymnal 480. 1.)

Questions. 1. When the day was far spent what did the disciples tell Jesus to do with the people? 2. Why did they want Him to send the people away? 3. What did Jesus answer? 4. How many loaves of bread did they have? 5. How many fishes? 6. How did they sit down? 7. What did Jesus do with the five loaves and the two fishes? 8. How many basketfuls of pieces did they take up? 9. How many were fed?

*Note.* Point out that Jesus was also present at creation and made all things (Jn. 1. 1-3), and that all good things come from God through Him. Read Psalm 103.

#### LESSON 18.

THE FIRST ARTICLE.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

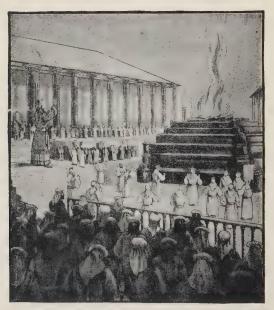
What is meant by this article? (Review the preceding part.)

All of which He does out of pure, paternal, and divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me;

for all of which I am in duty bound to thank and praise, serve, and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

# THANKFULNESS.



David blessed Jehovah before all the assembly; and David said, Blessed be thou, O Jehovah, the God of Israel our father, for ever and ever. Thine. O Jehovah, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is thine: thine is the kingdom, O Jehovah.

and thou art exalted as head over all. Both riches and honor come of thee, and thou rulest over all; and in thy hand is power and might; and in thy hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all. Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name.

And David said to all the assembly, Now bless Jehovah your God. And all the assembly blessed Jehovah, the God of their fathers, and bowed down their heads, and worshiped Jehovah, and the king. And they sacrificed sacrifices unto Jehovah, and offered burnt-offerings unto Jehovah, on the morrow after that day, even a thousand bullocks, a thousand rams, and a thousand lambs, with their drink-offerings, and sacrifices in abundance for all Israel, and did eat and drink before Jehovah on that day with great gladness. I Chr. 29. 10–13, 20–22.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

Oh give thanks unto Jehovah; for he is good; For his lovingkindness endureth forever. Ps. 106. 1.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given, The Son, and Him who reigns with them in highest heaven: The One eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore; For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

(New Hymnal 299. 3.)

Questions. 1. Whom did David bless? 2. Before whom did David bless Jehovah? 3. What did David say to all the assembly? 4. What did all the assembly do? 5. What did they sacrifice and offer unto Jehovah on the first day? 6. "On the morrow after that day" what did they bring unto Jehovah? 7. How did they celebrate "on that day"?

Note. Read 1 Chr. 28, 29. Emphasize morning, evening, and table prayers. If it were not for God's "divine goodness and mercy" no man could live. All temporal and spiritual good comes from God. But we must praise Him. Ps. 50, 15; 103.

## LESSON 19.

THE SECOND ARTICLE.

Of God the Son and Redemption.

I believe in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary:

suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell:

the third day He rose again from the dead;

He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

What is meant by this article?

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord.



# THE BIRTH OF JESUS.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily. But when he thought on these

things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she shall bring forth a son; and thou shalt call his name Jesus; for it is he that shall save his people from their sins. Now all this is come to pass, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel; which is, being interpreted, God with us. And Joseph arose from his sleep and did as the angel of the Lord commanded him, and took unto him his wife. Mt. 1. 18–24.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have eternal life. Jn. 3. 16.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

This is the Christ, our God and Lord, Who in all need shall aid afford; He will Himself our Saviour be, And from our sins will set us free. (New Hymnal 27. 2.)

Questions. 1. What did Joseph have in mind to do with Mary? 2. What did the angel of the Lord say to Joseph in a dream that he should not fear to do? 3. What name should be given to the Son? 4. What is Jesus to do? 5. What was spoken by the Lord through the prophet? 6. When Joseph arose from his sleep, what did he do?

Note. Emphasize that Jesus born of a woman is true man, Lk. 2. 1—20; that conceived of the Holy Spirit, He is true God; Immanuel, God with us. See Is. 9. 6.

#### LESSON 20.

THE SECOND ARTICLE. (Review Lesson 19.)

Who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, secured and delivered me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil,

not with silver and gold, but with His holy and precious blood, and with His innocent sufferings and death.

# CHRIST'S SUFFERING AND DEATH.

He was despised, and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and as one from whom men hide their face he was despised and we esteemed him not.

Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; and the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and Jehovah hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, yet when he was afflicted he opened not his mouth; as a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and as a sheep that before

its shearers is dumb, so he opened not his mouth. By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who among them considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living for the transgression of my people to whom the stroke was due? And they made his grave with the wicked, and with a rich man in his death; although he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth. Is. 53. 3—9.

# BIBLE TEXT.

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities. Is. 53. 5.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

O Lamb of God, most holy,
On Calvary an offering;
Despiséd, meek and lowly,
Thou in Thy death and suffering
Our sins didst bear, our anguish;
The might of death didst vanquish;
Give us Thy peace, O Jesus!

(New Hymnal 90.)

Questions. Fill out the following sentences. 1. He was despised, and rejected of..... 2. A man of ..... 3. Acquainted with..... 4. We esteemed Him..... 5. And carried our..... 6. He was wounded for our..... 7. He was bruised for our..... 8. The chastisement of our peace was upon..... 9. With His stripes we are..... 10. Jehovah hath laid on Him..... 11. He opened not His..... 12. They made His grave with.....

Note. Explain unusual words. Show that Jesus suffered and died. Apply Mt. 27; Mk. 15; Lk. 23; Jn. 19. Jesus satisfied the two demands of the Law, perfect obedience and death, God and His law were satisfied. — No amount of money can purchase the forgiveness of a single sin: no self-righteousness or holiness in man can erase sin. See Jn. 1, 29.

## LESSON 21.

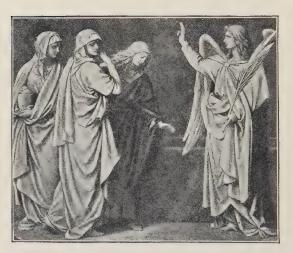
THE SECOND ARTICLE. (Review preceding lessons.)

Who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, secured and delivered me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil,

not with silver and gold, but with His holy and precious blood, and with His innocent sufferings and death;

in order that I might be His own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness, even as He is risen from the dead.

#### HE IS RISEN.



And when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, that they might come and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, they come to the tomb when the sun was risen. And they were saying

among themselves, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the tomb? and looking up, they see that the stone is rolled back:

for it was exceeding great. And entering into the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side arrayed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he saith unto them, Be not amazed: ye seek Jesus, the Nazarene, who hath been crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold, the place where they laid him! But go, tell his disciples and Peter, He goeth before you into Galilee: there ye shall see him, as he said unto you. And they went out, and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them: and they said nothing to any one; for they were afraid. Mk. 16. 1–8.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth on me, though he die, yet shall he live. Jn. 11. 25.

# MEMORY VERSE.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ hath burst the gates of hell! Death in vain forbids His rise; Christ hath opened paradise.

(New Hymnal 132. 3.)

Questions. 1. Who were the women that bought spices, that they might come and anoint Jesus? 2. On what day did they come to the tomb? 3. Was it early or late when they came? 4. What were they saying among themselves? 5. When they were looking up, what did they see? 6. Entering into the tomb, whom did they see? 7. What did the "young man" say to the women about Jesus? 8. What were they to tell the disciples and Peter? 9. What did they do?

Note. Read Mt. 28; Lk. 24; Jn. 20. If Jesus had not been the Son of God, He could not have risen from the dead, but now He could give His life and take it whenever He pleased. By His resurrection Jesus proved that death and the devil had no power over Him. — Jesus is living and we shall belong to Him, live under Him as our King in His kingdom, His Church, and also after death, go to live and reign with Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness.

See Teacher's Guide, Vol. II, Lesson 44.

### LESSON 22.

THE SECOND ARTICLE. (Review the preceding part.)

In order that I might be His own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness, even as He is risen from the dead, and lives and reigns to all eternity.

This is most certainly true.

### CHRIST'S ASCENSION.



They, the disciples, therefore, when they were come together, asked him, saving, Lord, dost thou at this time restore the kingdom of Israel? And he said unto them, It is not for you to know times or seasons. which the Father hath set within his own authority. But ye shall receive power, when the Holy Spirit is come upon you: and ye shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea and Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. And when he had said these things, as they were looking, he was

taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they were looking steadfastly into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; who also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye looking into heaven? this Jesus, who was received up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye beheld him going into heaven.

Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is nigh unto Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey off. Acts 1. 6—12.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

When he ascended on high, he led captivity captive, And gave gifts unto men. Eph. 4. 8.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Hail the day that sees Him rise To His throne above the skies! Christ, the Lamb for sinners given, Reascends His native heaven.

(New Hymnal 148. 1.)

Questions. 1. What did the disciples ask Jesus? 2. What did He say about times and seasons, which the Father hath set within His own authority? 3. When were the disciples to receive power? 4. Where were they to be His witnesses? 5. What happened when He had said these things? 6. Where did the two men say that Jesus went? 7. Where did the disciples then go?

Note. The disciples evidently did not yet understand that Jesus' Kingdom was not temporal and external, but a spiritual and internal kingdom.—The disciples should rest assured that God is ruling and all is well.—By ascending into heaven Jesus returned again to the position of glory which He had with the Father from the beginning, there to intercede for us. Jn. 17. 5; Mk. 16. 19; 1 Jn. 2. 1, 2; Heb. 1. 3; Heb. 7. 25.

See Teacher's Guide, Vol. II, Lesson 46.

## LESSON 23.

THE SECOND ARTICLE.

(Review Second Article, Lesson 19.)

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord;

who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, secured and delivered me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil,

not with silver and gold, but with His holy and precious blood, and with His innocent sufferings and death;

in order that I might be His own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness, even as He is risen from the dead, and lives and reigns to all eternity.

This is most certainly true.

## THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST.



Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, who took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For the foolish, when they took their lamps, took no oil with them; but the

wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. Now while the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. But at midnight there is a cry, Behold, the bridegroom! Come ye forth to meet him. Then all the virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are going out. But the wise answered, saying, Peradventure there will not be enough for us and you: go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves. And while they went away to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage feast: and the door was shut. Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not. Watch therefore, for ye know not the day nor the hour. Mt. 25. 1-13.

## BIRLE TEXT.

For we must all be made manifest before the judgment-seat of Christ. 2 Cor. 5. 10.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

But to those who have confessed, Loved, and served the Lord below, You forever shall my love and He will say, "Come near, ye blessèd!

See the kingdom I bestow! glory know." (New Hymnal 610. 4.)

Questions. 1. How many virgins are mentioned? 2. Taking their lamps, where did they go? 3. How many virgins were foolish and how many were wise? 4. Why were the five foolish? 5. Why were the other five wise? 6. When the bridegroom came, what did the foolish say to the wise? 7. What did the wise answer? 8. While the foolish went away to buy, who came? 9. Who went in with him to the marriage

feast? 10. What did the Lord answer the other virgins, when they said, Lord, Lord, open to us? 11. What should we always do?

Note. Christ shall come on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory for the purpose of redeeming His own, completing His work and judging the world. Among many acts to take place will be the marriage of the Lamb. Emphasize the necessity of being ready for Christ's coming.

## LESSON 24.

#### THE THIRD ARTICLE.

Of God the Holy Spirit and Sanctification.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; the Forgiveness of sins; the Resurrection of the body; and the Life everlasting. Amen.

# What is meant by this article?

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ my Lord, or come to Him;

but the Holy Spirit has called me through the gospel, enlightened me by His gifts, and sanctified and preserved me in the true faith.

## THE OUTPOURING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

And when the day of Pentecost was now come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound as of the rushing of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them tongues parting asunder, like as of fire; and it sat upon each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak with other

tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

And when this sound was heard, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speaking in his own language. And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying, Behold, are not all these that speak Galilæans? And how hear we, every man in our own language wherein we were born? We hear them speaking in our tongues the mighty works of God. And they were all amazed, and were perplexed, saying one to another, What meaneth this? But others mocking said, They are filled with new wine.

But Peter spake forth unto them, saying, Jesus whom God did raise up hath poured forth this, which ye see and hear.

Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and

said unto Peter and the rest of the apostles, Brethren, what shall we do? And Peter said unto them, Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of your sins; and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. They then that received his word were baptized, and there were added unto them in that day about three thousand souls. Acts 2. 1-41.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

Know ye not that ye are a temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in vou? I Cor. 3. 16.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Spirit of truth, be Thou in life and death our Guide: O Spirit of adoption, now may we be sanctified! (New Hymnal 160. 6.)

Questions. 1. On what day did God send His Holy Spirit? 2. To what was the sound that came from heaven likened? 3. How were the tongues that appeared distributed? 4. What did the apostles do when they were filled with the Holy Spirit? 5. What did the people say when every man heard the apostles speaking in his own language? 6. When Peter said that Jesus had poured forth the Holy Spirit, what did the people say to Peter and the rest of the apostles? 7. What did Peter then say? 8. How many were added unto the church in that day?

Note. It was the Holy Spirit working through the Word of God preached by Peter that stirred the hearts of the people and caused the conversion of 3,000. - We have received the Holy Spirit in baptism. Emphasize the Means of Grace.



#### LESSON 25.

THE THIRD ARTICLE.
(Review Catechism Lesson 24.)

In like manner as He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and preserves it in union with Jesus Christ in the true faith.

# THE HOLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH.



Now when Jesus came into the parts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Who do men say that the Son of man is? And they said, Some say John;

some, Elijah; and others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets. He saith unto them, But who say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-Jonah: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father who is in heaven. And I also say unto thee that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Mt. 16. 13–20.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. Mt. 16. 18.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

My Church! my Church! my dear old Church!
My fathers' and my own!
On prophets and apostles built,
And Christ the corner-stone!
All else beside, by storm or tide
May yet be overthrown;
But not my Church, my dear old Church,
My fathers' and my own!

(New Hymnal 276. 1.)

Questions. 1. What did Jesus ask His disciples? 2. What did they say? 3. When Jesus asked them, "But who say ye that I am?" what did Peter answer? 4. Who did Jesus say had revealed this unto Peter? 5. What did Jesus say that He would build upon this rock? 6. What shall not the gates of Hades do? 7. What keys did Jesus speak of?

Note. Peter's utterance, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God," was not the revelation of human reason and understanding, but of God, and is the great foundation truth of which Jesus says, "Upon this rock I will build my church." The Church is the Communion of saints. See Eph. 2, 19—22.

# LESSON 26.

THE THIRD ARTICLE. (Review the preceding lessons.)

In like manner as He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and preserves it in union with Jesus Christ in the true faith;

in which Christian Church He daily forgives abundantly all my sins, and the sins of all believers.

# THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.



And Jesus entered into a boat, and crossed over, and came into his own city. And behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, be of good cheer; thy sins are forgiven. And behold, certain of the scribes said within themselves. This man blasphemeth. And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts? For which is easier to say, Arise, and walk? or to say, Thy sins are forgiven? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath authority on earth to forgive sins (then saith he to the sick of the palsy), Arise, and take up thy bed, and go unto thy house. And he arose, and departed to his house. But when the multitudes saw it, they were afraid, and glorified God, who had given such authority unto men. Mt. 9. 1–7.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Ps. 32. 1.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Thy grace first made me feel my sin,
It taught me to believe;
Then, in believing, peace I found,
And now I live, I live.
(New Hymnal 442. 4.)

Questions. 1. To what city did Jesus come? 2. Who was brought to Him? 3. What did Jesus say to the sick man? 4. What did certain of the scribes say within themselves? 5. How did Jesus prove that He had authority on earth to forgive sins? 6. What did the sick man do? 7. What did the multitude do?

Note. Palsy is the same as paralysis. — Jesus saw their faith in what they did. Faith in our heart will manifest itself in our daily life. — "Jesus first paid attention to the man's spiritual needs because his sins were his big trouble." A sinner is never right with God until his sins are forgiven. Every one sins daily, but God in His church daily forgives abundantly all my sins, and the sins of all believers.

# LESSON 27.

#### THE THIRD ARTICLE.

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ my Lord, or come to him; but the Holy Spirit has called me through the gospel, enlightened me by his gifts, and sanctified and preserved me in the true faith; in like manner as he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and preserves it in union with Jesus Christ in the true faith; in which Christian Church he daily forgives abundantly all my sins, and the sins of all believers,

and will raise up me and all the dead at the last day.

# JAIRUS' DAUGHTER.

And behold, there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue; and he fell down at Jesus' feet, and besought him to come into his house; for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying. But as he went the multitude thronged him.

And there cometh one from the ruler of the synagogue's house, saying, Thy daughter is dead; trouble not the Teacher. But Jesus hearing it answered him, Fear not: only believe, and she shall be made whole. And when he came to the house, he suffered not any man to enter it with him, save Peter, and John, and James, and the father of the maiden and her mother. And all were weeping, and bewailing her: but he said, Weep not; for she is not dead, but sleepeth. And they laughed him to scorn, knowing that she was dead. But he, taking her by the hand, called, saying, Maiden, arise. And her spirit returned, and she rose up immediately: and he commanded that something be given her to eat. Lk. 8. 41–56.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

The hour cometh, in which all that are in the tombs shall hear his voice and shall come forth. Jn. 5. 28, 29.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Asleep in Jesus! peaceful rest, Whose waking is supremely blest: No fear, no woe, shall dim that hour That manifests the Saviour's power.

(New Hymnal 598. 3.)

Questions. 1. Who was Jairus? 2. Why did he ask Jesus to come into his house? 3. What did the one who came from the ruler's house say to Jairus? 4. What did Jesus say to him? 5. Who were allowed to enter the house with Jesus? 6. What did Jesus say to them that were weeping? 7. What did they do when Jesus had said this? 8. What did Jesus do then? 9. What happened to Jairus' daughter when Jesus called: "Maiden, arise"? 10. What did He command?

Note. All of the dead will be raised. Apply Bible Text. There will, however, be a difference, there is the resurrection of life and the resurrection of damnation. Jn. 5. 29; Dan. 12. 2. The record of departed ones raised to life is given in the inspired Word, that we



might not lose sight of the important doctrine of resurrection.

# LESSON 28.

THE THIRD ARTICLE.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; the Forgiveness of sins; the Resurrection of the body; and the Life everlasting. Amen.

# What is meant by this article?

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ my Lord, or come to Him;

but the Holy Spirit has called me through the gospel, enlightened me by His gifts, and sanctified and preserved me in the true faith;

in like manner as He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and preserves it in union with Jesus Christ in the true faith;

in which Christian Church He daily forgives abundantly all my sins, and the sins of all believers,

and will raise up me and all the dead at the last day,

and will grant everlasting life to me and to all who believe in Christ,

This is most certainly true.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

When He cometh, when He cometh To make up His jewels, All His jewels, precious jewels, His loved and His own.

Chorus—Like the stars of the morning,
His bright crown adorning,
They shall shine in their beauty,
Bright gems for His crown.
(New Hymnal 651, 1 and chorus.)

#### LIFE EVERLASTING.

And God shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; and death shall be no more: neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain, any more: the first things are passed away. And he that sitteth on the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he saith, Write: for these words are faithful and true. And he said unto me. They are come to pass. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life



freely. He that overcometh shall inherit these things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. Rev. 21. 4—7.

## BIBLE TEXT.

Believe on the Lord Jesus, and thou shalt be saved, thou and thy house. Acts 16. 31.

Questions. Fill out the following sentences. 1. God shall wipe away ..... from ...... 2. Death shall be ...... 3. Neither shall there be ..... nor ..... 4. The first things are ..... 5. Behold I make all things ..... 6. Write: for these words are ..... and ..... 7. I am the ..... and the ..... 8. I will give unto ..... that is ..... of the ..... of the ..... of .... freely. 9. I will be his God, and he shall be my .....

Note. All who attain to eternal life will be happy. — Eternal life is too wonderful for mortals to fully conceive of and appreciate while here below. 1 Cor. 2. 9. Read also Rev. 21. 8 and point out that not all who die go to heaven.

# THE LORD'S PRAYER.

## LESSON 29.

#### Our Father who art in heaven.

What is meant by this petition?

God would thereby affectionately encourage us to believe that He is truly our Father and that we are His children indeed,

so that we may call upon Him with all cheerfulness and confidence, even as beloved children entreat their affectionate parent.

## CHRIST EXHORTETH TO PRAYER.



Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: for every one that asketh receiveth: and he that seeketh findeth: and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. Or what man is there of you, who, if his son shall ask him for a loaf, will give him a stone; or if he shall ask for a fish, will give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father who is in heaven give good things to them that ask him? Mt.

7. 7-11.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

Verily, verily, I say unto you, If ye shall ask anything of the Father, he will give it you in my name. Jn. 16. 23.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Almighty God, eternal Lord, Grant us Thy grace through Thy dear Word To praise Thee and to bear in mind That Thou art ever good and kind.

(New Hymnal 167. 1.)

Questions. Fill out the following sentences: 1. Ask, and it shall
2. Seek, and ye shall? 3. Knock, and it shall
4. For every one that asketh 5. And he that
seeketh 6. And to him that knocketh
7. What man, if his son shall ask, will give him
8. Or if he shall ask will give him 9. If
ye then, being evil, know how to give unto your children,
how much more shall who is in heaven give to them
that

Note. We may come to God and ask Him as children ask their father. — The Christian prayer is a prayer in Jesus' name (Jn. 16. 23, 24), and the only prayer acceptable before God.

#### LESSON 30.

THE FIRST PETITION.

# Hallowed be thy name.

What is meant by this petition?

The name of God is indeed holy in itself; but we pray in this petition that it may be hallowed also by us.

# How is this effected?

When the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, lead holy lives in accordance with it;

this grant us, dear Father in heaven!

But whoever teaches and lives otherwise than as God's Word prescribes, profanes the name of God among us;

from this preserve us, heavenly Father!

#### THE WISE AND THE FOOLISH MEN.

Every one therefore that heareth these words of mine, and doeth them, shall be likened unto a wise man, who built his house upon the rock: and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon the house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon the rock. And every one that heareth these words of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, who built his house upon the sand: and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and smote upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall thereof. Mt. 7. 24-27.

#### BIRLE TEXT.

Sanctify them in the truth: thy word is truth. Jn. 17. 17.

## MEMORY VERSE.

Divine Instructor, gracious Lord!
Be Thou forever near;
Teach me to love Thy sacred Word,
And view my Saviour there.

(New Hymnal 218. 4.)

Questions. 1. What shall every one that heareth Christ's words and doeth them be likened unto? 2. What did the wise man do? 3. What happened to his house when the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew? 4. Why did it not fall? 5. What shall every one that heareth Christ's words and doeth them not, be likened unto? 6. Where did the foolish man build his house? 7. When did it fall?

Note. If we are to hallow God's name, we must live according to God's Word, which is the only foundation that will stand forever. By believing God's Word and keeping it, without giving away to heresies, or false interpretations, we are on the true foundation, and thus God's name is hallowed.



#### LESSON 31:

THE SECOND PETITION.

# Thy kingdom come.

What is meant by this petition?

The kingdom of God comes indeed of itself, without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may come unto us also.

# How is this effected?

When our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word, and live a godly life here on earth, and in heaven for ever.

## PARABLE OF THE SOWER.



On that day went Jesus out of the house, and sat by the sea side. And there were gathered unto him great multitudes, so that he entered into a boat, and sat; and all the multitude stood on

the beach. And he spake to them many things in parables, saying, Behold, the sower went forth to sow; and as he sowed, some seeds fell by the way side, and the birds came and devoured them: and others fell upon the rocky places, where they had not much earth: and straightway they sprang up, because they had no deepness of

earth: and when the sun was risen, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away. And others fell upon the thorns; and the thorns grew up and choked them: and others fell upon the good ground, and yielded fruit, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He that hath ears, let him hear. Mt. 13. 1-9.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. Ps. 126. 5.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Thy scepter, Jesus, shall extend
As far as day prevaileth;
Thy glorious kingdom, without end,
Shall stand when all else faileth.
Thy blessed Name shall be confessed,
And round Thy cross, forever blest,
Shall kings and people gather.

(New Hymnal 265. 1.)

Questions. 1. When Jesus went out of the house, where did He go? 2. When the multitude gathered unto Him, where did He go to sit down? 3. Where did the people stand? 4. What did Jesus do? 5. What did the sower do? 6. What became of the seed that fell by the wayside? 7. What happened to the seed that fell upon the rocky places when the sun was risen? 8. What happened to the seed that fell upon the thorns? 9. What did the seed yield that fell upon the good ground?

Note. See Christ's own explanation of the parable in Mt. 13. 18-23. We should both pray, Thy kingdom come, and also devote ourselves to the interests of the Christian Church, and hold ourselves in readiness to do our part in the Lord's service. The Lord's work in this world is in need of workmen (sowers). Mt. 9. 37, 38. The word sowed in our hearts should bear fruit in holy living and in labor for the Lord in His kingdom.

## LESSON 32.

THE THIRD PETITION.

# Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

What is meant by this petition?

The good and gracious will of God is done indeed without our prayer;

but we pray in this petition that it may be done by us also.

## How is this effected?

When God frustrates and brings to naught every evil counsel and purpose,

which would hinder us from hallowing the name of God, and prevent His kingdom from coming to us, such as the will of the devil, of the world, and of our own flesh;

and when He strengthens us and keeps us steadfast in His Word and in the faith, even unto our end.

This is His gracious and good will.

#### THE WICKED AND THE RIGHTEOUS.



But if the wicked turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die. None of his transgressions that he hath committed shall be remembered against him: in his righteousness that he hath done he shall live. Have I any pleasure in the death

of the wicked? saith the Lord Jehovah; and not rather that he should return from his way, and live? But when the righteous turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, and doeth according to all the abominations that the wicked man doeth, shall he live? None of his righteous deeds that he hath done shall be remembered: in his trespass that he hath trespassed, and in his sin that he hath sinned, in them shall he die. Ezek. 18. 21–24.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

Teach me to do thy will; for thou art my God. Ps. 143. 10.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Early let us seek Thy favor,
Early let us do Thy will;
Blessed Lord and only Saviour,
With Thy love our bosom fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Thou hast loved us, love us still.
(New Hymnal 644. 3.)

Note. God's will is especially made clear to us in the ten commandments. God earnestly means it when He commands and forbids us, and threatens to punish those who do not obey. — His will is also a gracious will, because He promises to forgive the sins of those who repent. — There are temptations within us and all around us, therefore we should persevere in prayer, and be careful not to run into temptations. 1 Pet. 5. 8. Show how God's will is done among us.

#### LESSON 33.

## THE FOURTH PETITION.

# Give us this day our daily bread.

What is meant by this petition?

God gives indeed without our prayer even to the wicked also their daily bread;

but we pray in this petition that He would make us sensible of His benefits, and enable us to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

What is implied in the words: "Our daily bread"?

All things that pertain to the wants and the support of this present life; such as food, raiment, money, goods, house and land, and other property; a believing spouse and good children; trustworthy servants and faithful magistrates; favorable seasons, peace and health; education and honor; true friends, good neighbors, and the like.

#### GOD TAKES CARE OF US.

Be not anxious for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than food, and the body more than raiment? Behold the birds of the heaven, that they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; and your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are not ye of much more value than they? And why are ye anxious concerning raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin; yet I say unto you, that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God doth so clothe the grass of the field, which to-day is, and to-morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you? Be not therefore anxious, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? But seek ye first his kingdom, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Matt. 6. 25—33.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

But seek ye first his kingdom, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Mt. 6. 33.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

If God o'er the grass and the flowers
Such delicate beauty hath spread,
The flowers which to-day are so fragrant,
To-morrow are faded and dead;
Oh, why, then, should earthly cares fret thee?
Thy Father will never forget thee,
Nor fail to provide thee with bread.

(New Hymnal 445. 4.)

Questions. 1. Name three things concerning our life and body for which Jesus said we should not be anxious. 2. What do the birds not do? 3. Who feeds them? 4. Who are of more value, we or the birds? 5. The lilies of the field, that grow, what do they not do? 6. Who doth clothe the grass of the field? 7. Who will clothe us if we trust Him? 8. What should we seek first of all? 9. What then will he added unto us?

Note. In the Lord's prayer Jesus has given three petitions in which to ask for spiritual blessings, and placed them first, and but one petition for temporal blessings. The spiritual blessings are of greater importance than the temporal. Apply Bible text. Everything comes from God and we should look to Him for all that we need. Jas. 1. 17. We should pray, "Give us this day." We should never be anxious, but work



and pray, and trust in God, who will surely provide for our want.

#### LESSON 34.

THE FIFTH PETITION.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

What is meant by this petition?

We pray in this petition,

that our heavenly Father would not regard our sins, nor deny us our requests on account of them;

for we are not worthy of anything for which we pray, and have not merited it;

but that He would grant us all things through grace,

although we daily commit much sin, and deserve chastisement alone.

We will, therefore, on our part, both heartily forgive, and also readily do good to those who may injure or offend us.

#### THE DEATH OF STEPHEN.



And Stephen, full of grace and power, wrought great wonders and signs among the people. But there arose certain of them disputing with Stephen. And they were not able to withstand the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spake. Then they

suborned men, who said, We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses, and against God. And they stirred up the people, and the elders, and the scribes, and came upon him, and seized him, and brought him into the council, and set up false witnesses, who said, This man ceaseth not to speak words against this holy place, and the law: for we have heard him say, that this Jesus of Nazareth shall destroy this place and shall change the customs which Moses delivered unto us. And all that sat in the council, fastening their eyes on him, saw his face as it had been the face of an angel.

But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, looked up stedfastly into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, and said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God. But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears, and rushed upon him with one accord; and they cast him out of the city, and stoned him. And they stoned Stephen, calling upon the Lord, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this he fell asleep. Acts 6—7.

## BIBLE TEXT.

Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. Acts 7. 60.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Our flesh and sense must be denied, Passion and envy, lust and pride; While justice, temperance, truth, and love Our inward piety approve. (New Hymnal 459. 3.)

Questions. 1. What did Stephen do? 2. What did the suborned men accuse him of? 3. After the elders and the scribes had stirred up the people and seized Stephen, where did they bring him? 4. What did Stephen's face look like? 5. What did he say, when he saw the glory of God? 6. What did his accusers do then? 7. What was his first prayer? 8. What was his second prayer?

*Note.* Stephen re-echoed the words of Jesus on the cross by first commending his soul into the hands of his Saviour, and then to pray for those who put him to death. We must forgive those who trespass

against us.

#### LESSON 35.

THE SIXTY PETITION.

# And lead us not into temptation.

What is meant by this petition?

God indeed tempts no one to sin;

but we pray in this petition that God would guard and preserve us, that the devil, the world and our own flesh may not deceive us, nor lead us into error and unbelief, despair, and other great and shameful sins:

and that, though we may be thus tempted, we may nevertheless finally prevail and gain the victory.

# TEMPTATION AND DISOBEDIENCE OF ADAM AND EVE.



And Jehovah God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which Jehovah had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of any tree of the garden? And the woman said, Of the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat: but of the tree which is in the midst of the garden. God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ve touch it, lest ve die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ve eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as God, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat; and she gave also unto her husband with her, and he did eat. And the eves of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig-leaves together, and made themselves aprons. And they heard the voice of Iehovah God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of Jehovah God amongst the trees of the garden. (Gen. 2-3.)

#### BIBLE TEXT.

Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation. Mt. 26. 41.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Yield not to temptation, For yielding is sin; Each victory will help you Some other to win. Fight manfully onward, Dark passions subdue; Look ever to Jesus, He'll carry you through. (L. L. Hymnal 126. 1.)

Questions. 1. Of which tree were Adam and Eve forbidden to eat? 2. What would happen in the day that they would eat thereof? 3. What did the serpent say unto the woman? 4. What did the woman say? 5. What did the serpent then say to the woman? 6. What did the woman do? 7. What did her husband do? 8. What happened to the eyes of them both? 9. What did they know now? 10. When they heard the voice of God, what did they do?

*Note.* Temptation comes from the devil.—It is not necessary to yield to temptation.—The power of God to resist the devil is found in the Holy Word of God.

#### LESSON 36.

THE SEVENTH PETITION.

#### But deliver us from evil.

What is meant by this petition?

We pray in this petition, as in a summary,

that our heavenly Father would deliver us from all manner of evil, whether it affect the body or soul, property or character, and, at last, when the hour of death shall arrive, grant us a happy end, and graciously take us from this world of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

# JESUS AND THE WOMAN OF CANAAN.



And Jesus went out thence, and withdrew into the parts of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanitish woman came out from those borders, and cried, saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a demon. But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saving, Send her away: for she crieth after us. But he answered and said. I was not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel. But she came and worshiped him, saying, Lord, help me. And he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread and cast it to the dogs. But she said, Yea, Lord: for even the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table. Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it done unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was healed from that hour. Mt. 15. 21–28.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

Jehovah will keep thee from all evil. Ps. 121. 7.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Though devils all the world should fill,
All watching to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill,
They cannot overpower us.
For this world's prince may still
Scowl fiercely, as he will,
We need not be alarmed,
For he is now disarmed;
One little word o'erthrows him.
(New Hymnal 266. 3.)

Questions. 1. Where was Jesus now? 2. What did the Canaanitish woman say? 3. What did Jesus answer? 4. What did the disciples say? 5. What did Jesus answer them? 6. Again what did the woman say? 7. What did Jesus then say unto her? 8. What did she answer? 9. What did Jesus then say? 10. What happened to the woman's daughter?

Note. A persevering faith in Jesus Christ will enable us to bear patiently the afflictions that fall upon us, and also bring deliverance from all evil.—No greater evil can befall us than to die without hope of salvation, but the greatest blessing of all is to die in the hope of a resurrection to eternal life. Rev. 14. 13.

#### LESSON 37.

THE CONCLUSION.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever.

### Amen.

What is meant by this word?

That I should be assured that such petitions are acceptable to our heavenly Father, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this manner, and has promised that He will hear us. Amen, Amen, that is, Yea, yea, it shall be so.



# THE KING OF KINGS AND THE LORD OF LORDS.

I charge thee in the sight of God, who giveth life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed the good confession; that thou keep the commandment, without spot, without reproach, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ: which in its own times he shall show, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; who only hath immortality, dwelling in light unapproachable; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honor and power eternal. Amen. I Tim. 6. 13-16.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

For how many soever be the promises of God, in him is the yea: wherefore also through him is the Amen, unto the glory of God through us. 2 Cor. 1.20.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

And to this blest assurance I'll cling for evermore: And never shall I weary A Father to implore. Depart, despair and anguish, That oft my soul oppress; I'll cling unto my Saviour Till He my soul shall bless.

New Hymnal 301, 4.)

Questions. 1. Who wrote the words of this lesson? (Paul), 2. To whom did he write these words? (Timothy.) 3. What does Paul charge Timothy to keep? 4. How was he to keep the commandment? 5. Until the appearing of whom? 6. Who is the King of kings, the Lord of lords? 7. What is He dwelling in? 8. To Him be what?

Note. Paul writes to Timothy, whom he calls his son, because he had fitted him for the ministry and been instrumental in bringing about his conversion. Jesus is the blessed and only Potentate, and King, and Lord, and our prayer is in His name. John 16. 23; Ps. 145. 18, 19. "Thine is the kingdom," it will be to God's honor to answer our prayer. "Thine is the power" tells us God can answer; "Amen" tells us that God will answer our prayer.

# THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM.

#### LESSON 38.

What is baptism?

Baptism is not simply water, but it is the water comprehended in God's command, and connected with God's Word.

What is that Word of God?

It is that which our Lord Jesus Christ spake, as it is recorded in the last chapter of Matthew:

Go ye and make disciples of all nations,

baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.



# JOHN'S TESTIMONY CONCERNING CHRIST.

On the morrow John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold, the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, After me cometh a man who is become before me: for he was before me. And I knew him not; but that he should be made manifest to

Israel, for this cause came I baptizing in water. And John bare witness, saying, I have beheld the Spirit descending as a dove out of heaven; and it abode upon him. And I knew him not; but he that sent me to baptize in water, he said unto me, Upon whomsoever thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and abiding upon him, the same is he that baptizeth in the Holy Spirit. And I have seen, and have borne witness that this is the Son of God. Jn. 1. 29-34.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

Suffer the little children to come unto me; forbid them not; for to such belongeth the kingdom of God. Mk. 10. 14.

### MEMORY VERSE.

O Spirit, brooding o'er the wave,
Descend upon this child:
Give endless life, its spirit lave
With waters undefiled:
Grant it a child of God to be,
A holy temple unto Thee.

(New Hymnal 227. 3.)

Questions. 1. Whom did John see coming unto him? 2. What did John call Jesus, when he saw Him coming? 3. What does the Lamb of God take away? 4. What did John say that he was "baptizing in"? 5. What had he seen descending as a dove abiding upon Jesus? 6. What does Jesus "baptize in"? 7. What witness did John bear of Jesus?

Note. John baptized in water; he was preparing people for the coming of Christ, and would bind them to repentance, and lead them to Christ, who would baptize them in the Holy Spirit. The disciples were baptized in the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. See Acts 2 38. Observe "unto the remission of your sins," and "the gift of the Holy Spirit." When a child is baptized it becomes a child of God, a Christian, a member of the Christian Church. Gal. 3. 26, 27.

## LESSON 39.

What gifts or benefits does baptism confer?

It worketh forgiveness of sins, delivers from death and the devil,

and confers everlasting salvation on all who believe, as the Word and promise of God declare.

What are such words and promises of God?

Those which our Lord Jesus Christ spake, as they are recorded in the last chapter of Mark:

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.



# NICODEMUS VISITS JESUS.

Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Tews: the same came unto him by night, and said to him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that thou doest, except God be with him. Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except one be born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can a man be born twice? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except one be born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be? Jesus answered and said unto him: As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up; that whosoever believeth may in him have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have eternal life. Jn. 3. 1–16.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have eternal life. Jn. 3. 16.

## MEMORY VERSE.

Be of good cheer, for God's own Son Forgives all sins which thou hast done; Thou'rt justified by Jesus' blood, Thy baptism grants the highest good.

Questions. 1. Who was Nicodemus? 2. When did he come to Jesus? 3. Why did he say that Jesus was a teacher from God? 4. What did Jesus say was necessary in order to see the kingdom of God? 5. What question did Nicodemus then ask? 6. What did Jesus answer? 7. What did Moses do in the wilderness? 8. Why must the Son of man be lifted up?

Note. The new birth, the change of nature that Jesus speaks of, is usually called regeneration. By our natural birth we are flesh born of flesh, sinful beings, as our parents are sinful. To be born of spirit is regeneration which is effected through water and the Spirit, which is baptism; thus we enter into the kingdom of God.

#### LESSON 40.

How can water produce such great effects?

It is not the water indeed that produces these effects,

but the Word of God, which accompanies and is connected with the water, and our faith which relies on the Word of God connected with the water.

For the water, without the Word of God, is simply water and no baptism.

But when connected with the Word of God, it is a baptism, that is, a gracious water of life and a washing of regeneration in the Holy Ghost;

as St. Paul says to Titus, in the third chapter (verses 5-8):

According to His mercy He saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

which He shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; that being justified by His grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

This is a faithful saying.

#### PAUL GIVES ACCOUNT OF HIS BAPTISM.

And I said, What shall I do, Lord? And the Lord said unto me, Arise, and go into Damascus. And there one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, well reported of by all the Jews that dwelt there, came unto me, and standing by me said unto me, Brother Saul, receive thy sight. And in that very hour I looked up on him. And he said, The God of our fathers hath appointed thee to know his will, and to see the Righteous One, and to hear a voice from his mouth. For thou shalt be a witness for him unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard. And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on his name. Acts 22. 10—16.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on his name. Acts 22, 16.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Lord, I bless Thy mercy endless,
For Thy pleasure is to bless;
Me, too, when my soul was friendless,
Thou didst to Thy bosom press:
For I, too, to Thee was given
In the pure baptismal wave,
Thou hast made me heir of heaven,
Who hast died my soul to save.

(New Hymnal 226, 2.)

Questions. 1. The apostle Paul, whose name was Saul, asked the Lord what question? 2. To what place did the Lord tell Saul to go? 3. What did Ananias first say to Paul? 4. What happened to Saul then? 5. Unto whom should Saul be a witness? 6. What did Ananias tell Saul about being baptized?

Note. Read Acts 9, 22, 26. Paul believed the Word of God, explained and preached to him by Ananias, and received baptism. Jesus declares the effects of baptism in the words: He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. Baptism works forgiveness of sins, delivers from death and the devil and gives everlasting salvation to all who believe the words and promises of God.



#### LESSON 41.

What does such baptizing with water signify?

It signifies

that the old Adam in us is to be drowned and destroyed by daily sorrow and repentance, together with all sins and evil lusts,

and that again the new man should daily come forth and rise, that shall live in the presence of God in righteousness and purity for ever.

### Where is it so written?

St. Paul, in the Epistle to the Romans, chapter 6, verse 4, says: We are buried with Christ by baptism into death;

that like as He was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

# THE BELIEVER DEAD TO SIN BUT ALIVE UNTO GOD.



For if we have become united with him in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection; knowing this, that our old man was crucified with him, that the body of sin might be done away, that so we should no longer be in bondage to sin; for he that hath died is justified from sin. But if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him; knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death no more hath dominion over him. For the death

that he died, he died unto sin once: but the life that he liveth, he liveth unto God. Even so reckon ye also yourselves to be dead unto sin, but alive unto God in Christ Jesus. Rom. 6. 5-11.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that we should obey the lusts thereof. Rom. 6, 12.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Baptized into Thy Name most holy, O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, I claim a place, though weak and lowly, Among Thy seed, Thy chosen host; Buried with Christ, and dead to sin. Thy Spirit now shall live within.

(New Hymnal 59. 1.)

Questions. Fill out the following sentences: 1. For ifhave
becomewithin theof his, we shall be
also in theof his 2. Knowing this, that our
was crucified withthat the body ofmight be
done away, that so we should nobe into; for
he that hathisfrom 3. But if wewith
we believe thatshall alsowith him; knowing
that Christ being from thedieth no; death no
more hath ver 4. For thethat He
died unto but thethat He He
unto 5. Even so reckon ye also yourselves to beunto
, butuntoin Christ Jesus.

Note. Emphasize daily repentance. The daily struggle against all evil; and the final victory through Jesus Christ.

# LESSON 42.

Confession of Sins and Absolution.

## THE PHARISEE AND THE PUBLICAN.



And Jesus spake also this parable unto certain who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and set all others at nought: Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as the rest of men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week; I give tithes of all that I get. But the publican standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote his breast, saying,

God, be thou merciful to me a sinner. I say unto you, This man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for every one that exalteth himself shall be humbled; but he that humbleth himself shall be exalted. Lk. 18. 9-14.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. I In. I. 9.

# MEMORY VERSE.

Then on Him I cast my burden, Sink it in the depths below: Let me feel Thy gracious pardon, Wash me, make me white as snow: Let Thy Spirit leave me never, Make me Thine alone forever!

(New Hymnal 405. 4.)

Questions. 1. Who spoke this parable? 2. To whom did He speak? 3. How many men went up into the temple? 4. For what purpose? 5. Who were these men? 6. Whom did the Pharisee pray with? What did he ask God for? 8. What did he tell God that he did? Where did the publican stand? 10. How did he show that he was humble? 11. What did he say? 12. What did Jesus say about the publican? 13. Why was he justified rather than the Pharisee?

Note. Observe that in the prayer of the Pharisee the element of repentance is conspicuously absent, in fact, he does not pray for anything, he is self-sufficient. The publican is a fine contrast.—Confession embraces two parts, one that we confess our sins before God with a penitent heart, asking forgiveness for Christ's sake; the other that after our confession the pastor, on Christ's behalf, declares the forgiveness of our sins, and that we believe that our sins are forgiven before God, who alone forgives sins. Forgiveness cannot be received without contrition and faith. See Catechism, pp. 113, 114.

# THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR,

OR

# THE LORD'S SUPPER.

### LESSON 43.

What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, under the bread and wine,

given unto us Christians to eat and to drink, as it was instituted by Christ Himself.

Where is it so written?

The holy Evangelists, Matthew, Mark and Luke, together with St. Paul write thus:

Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the night in which He was betrayed, took bread;

and when He had given thanks, He brake it and gave it to his disciples, saying,

Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you;

this do in remembrance of Me.

After the same manner, also, when He had supped He took the cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying,

Drink ye all of it;

this cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins;

this do, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Here at Thy table, Lord, we meet
To feed on food divine:
Thy body is the bread we eat,
Thy precious blood, the wine. (New Hymnal 242. 1.)

## THE LORD'S SUPPER.

Now on the first day of unleavened bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, Where wilt thou that we make ready for thee to eat the passover? And he said, Go into the city to such a man, and say unto him, The Teacher saith, My time is at hand; I keep the passover at thy house with my disciples. And the disciples did as Jesus appointed them; and they made ready the passover. And while they were eating, He took bread and wine and instituted the



Lord's Supper. Mt. 26. 17-19.

BIRLE TEXT.

He loved them unto the end. In. 13. 1.

Questions. 1. On what day did the disciples come to Jesus? 2. What did they say to Jesus? 3. Where did He tell them to go? 4. What were they to say to the man in the city? 5. What did the disciples do? 6. What did Jesus do while they were eating?

Note. "Had given thanks," is what the pastor does when he consecrates the bread and wine.—We receive the body and blood of Christ "in, with and under" the blessed bread and wine.—Children must first be taught what the Lord's Supper is — be confirmed — before they be permitted to partake of it.

# LESSON 44.

What benefits are derived from such eating and drinking?

They are pointed out in these words: Given and shed for you, for the remission of sins.

Namely, through these words, the remission of sins, life and salvation are granted unto us in the Sacrament.

For where there is remission of sins, there are also life and salvation.

## THE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD PSALM.



Bless Jehovah, O my soul; And all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Bless Jehovah, O my soul, And forget not all his benefits:

Who forgiveth all thine iniquities;

Who healeth all thy diseases;

Who redeemeth thy life from destruction;

Who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;

Who satisfieth thy desire with good things,

So that thy youth is renewed like the eagle. Jehovah executeth righteous acts, And judgments for all that are oppressed.

He made known his ways unto Moses,
His doings unto the children of Israel.
Jehovah is merciful and gracious,
Slow to anger, and abundant in lovingkindness.
He will not always chide;
Neither will he keep his anger for ever.
He hath not dealt with us after our sins,
Nor rewarded us after our iniquities.
For as the heavens are high above the earth,
So great is his lovingkindness toward them that fear him.
As far as the east is from the west,
So far hath he removed our transgression from us.
Like as a father pitieth his children,
So Jehovah pitieth them that fear him. Ps. 103, 1—13.

BIBLE TEXT.

Bless Jehovah, O my soul, And forget not all his benefits. Ps. 103. 2.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

He blotted out with His own blood The judgment that against us stood; He full atonement for us made, And all our debt He fully paid. (New Hymnal 234. 2.)

Questions. Find the following lines and supply the missing words:

And forget not all his...... Who forgiveth.....thine......

Who healeth.....thy....., who redeemeth thy....from...., who crowneth.....with....and tender.....Who satisfieth.....desire with good.....Jehovah is merciful and......

He hath not.....with us after our.....Like as a father.....his children, so Jehovah.....them that.....him.

Note. Emphasize that in the Lord's Supper we receive all that Jesus came to give us: forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. What food is for our body, the blessed sacrament of the Lord's Supper is for the new life that we received in Holy Baptism.

#### LESSON 45.

How can bodily eating and drinking produce such great effects? The eating and drinking, indeed, do not produce them,

but the words which stand here, namely:

Given and shed for you, for the remission of sins.

These words, together with the bodily eating and drinking, are the chief things in the Sacrament;

and he who believes these words, has that which they declare and set forth, namely, the remission of sins.

#### THE GREAT SUPPER.



Jesus said, A certain man made a great supper; and he bade many: and he sent forth his servant at supper time to say to

them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready. And they all began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a field, and I must needs go out and see it; I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them; I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come. And the servant came, and told his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor and maimed and blind and lame. And the servant said, Lord, what thou didst command is

done, and yet there is room. And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and constrain them to come in, that my house may be filled. For I say unto you, that none of those men that were bidden shall taste of my supper. Lk. 14. 16–24.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Mt. 5. 6.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

A precious food this is indeed,
It never faileth; such we need,
A heavenly manna for our soul,
That we may safely reach our goal.

(New Hymnal 234. 5.)

Questions. 1. What did the man who made a great supper do at supper time? 2. What did his servants say to them that were bidden? 3. What did they all do? 4. What did the first say? 5. What did the other say? 6. What did the last one say? 7. When the servant told his lord these things, what did the master of the house say? 8. When the servant told his lord that his command was done, what did he then say? 9. What was to happen to those men that were bidden first?

Note. Emphasize the necessity of accepting and believing the words of the invitation. — It is not sufficient only to hear the invitation, we must come, eat and drink. All is ready, "Given and shed for you for the remission of sins", we must believe these words, and act upon Christ's invitation.

#### LESSON 46.

Who is it, then, that receives this Sacrament worthily? Fasting and bodily preparation are indeed a good external discipline; but he is truly worthy and well prepared, who believes these words:

Given and shed for you, for the remission of sins.

But he who does not believe these words, or who doubts, is unworthy and unfit;

for the words: for you, require truly believing hearts.



# MARY'S SONG OF PRAISE.

And Mary arose in these days and went into the hill country with haste, into a city of Judah; and entered into the house of Zacharias and saluted Elizabeth. And Mary said,

My soul doth magnify the Lord,

And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath looked upon the low estate of his handmaid:

For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath done to me great things;

And holy is his name.

And his mercy is unto generations and generations

On them that fear him.

He hath showed strength with his arm;

He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their heart.

He hath put down princes from their thrones,

And hath exalted them of low degree.

The hungry he hath filled with good things;

And the rich he hath sent empty away. Lk. 1. 39-53.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

The hungry he hath filled with good things;
And the rich he hath sent empty away. Lk. 1. 53.

MEMORY VERSE.

Then blest is every worthy guest Who in this promise findeth rest, For Jesus will in love abide With those who do in Him confide.

(New Hymnal 234. 6.)

Questions. 1. Who was Mary? 2. Into whose house did she enter? 3. Whom did she salute? 4. Whom did her soul magnify? 5. In whom had her spirit rejoiced? 6. Whom should all generations from henceforth call blessed? 7. What hath the Lord done to the hungry? 8. What hath He done to the rich?

Note. Mary believed the Lord and her soul was blessed. But she was cognizant of her "low estate" in comparison to the high station God had given her, hence she was truly humble.—Through a worthy celebration of the Lord's Supper believers are strengthened in their communion with Christ, and with each other, their soul doth magnify the Lord and their spirit rejoiceth in the Saviour.—But those who partake of the Lord's Supper in an unworthy manner shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord. 1 Cor. 11. 27. Preparation is necessary. 1 Cor. 11. 28.

#### LESSON 47.

#### HOME MISSIONS.

The Seventy Sent Forth.



Now after these things, the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself was about to come. And he said unto them, The harvest indeed is plenteous, but

the laborers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he send forth laborers into his harvest. Go your ways; behold, I send you forth as lambs in the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no wallet, no shoes; and salute no man on the way. And into whatsoever house ye shall enter, first say, Peace be to this house. And if a son of peace be there, your peace shall rest upon him, but if not, it shall turn to you again. And in that same house remain, eating and drinking such things as they give: for the laborer is worthy of his hire. Go not from house to house. And into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you; and heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them. The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you. But into whatsoever city ye shall enter, and they receive you not, go out into the streets

thereof and say, Even the dust from your city, that cleaveth to our feet, we wipe off against you; nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God is come nigh. Lk. 10. 1-11.

#### BIBLE TEXT.

The harvest indeed is plenteous, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he send forth laborers into his harvest. Lk, 10. 2.

Memory Verse.

On Thee we humbly wait,

Our wants are in Thy view;

The harvest, Lord, is truly great,

The laborers are few.

(C. WESLEY.)

Questions. 1. Who appointed the seventy? 2. How did He send them? 3. Where did He send them? 4. What did He tell them about the harvest? 5. What did He say about the laborers? 6. What were the disciples to pray the Lord of the harvest for? 7. What were they not to carry? 8. When they entered a house, what were they first to say? 9. Why were they to remain "in the same house" and eat and drink "such things as they give"? 10. What were they to do to the sick? 11. What were they to say about the kingdom?

Note. Emphasize Home Mission work. Home Mission work is "work that is carried on in our own land, and consists in gathering into self-supporting congregations the scattered brethren in faith, together with unchurched masses of our mixed population, regardless of color and nationality. That Jesus, besides the twelve, had yet a wider circle of disciples, appears also from Jn. 6. 66; Acts 1. 15–26, and 1 Cor. 15. 6. The seventy received commission to prepare for the coming of the Saviour in some towns and villages "whither he himself was about to come" and in order to influence to decision at least a part of the people and by word and deed to prepare the coming of the kingdom of God in the midst of them. (See Lange.) "The seventy disciples are to be regarded as a net of love which the Lord threw out in Israel" (Riggenbach.) Tell of how your local church became organized, the first missionaries, services, meeting place, church building and how other churches have been established in much the same way.

#### LESSON 48.

#### FOREIGN MISSIONS.



Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judæa in the days of Herod the king, Wise-men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we saw his star in the east and are come to worship him. And when Herod the king heard it, he was troubled and all Jerusalem with him. And gathering together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judæa,

for thus it is written through the prophet, And thou, Bethlehem, land of Judæa, art in no wise least among the princes of Judah, for out of thee shall come forth a governor, who shall be shepherd of my people Israel. Then Herod privily called the Wise-men and learned of them exactly what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, Go and search out exactly concerning the young child, and when ye have found him, bring me word that I also may come and worship him. And they, having heard the king, went their way, and lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. And when they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And they came into the house and saw the young child

with Mary his mother and they fell down and worshiped him; and opening their treasures they offered unto him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way. Mt. 2.

BIBLE TEXT.

We would see Jesus. Jn. 12. 21.

MEMORY VERSE.

Hail, Thou all-inviting Saviour!
Gentiles now their offerings bring;
In Thy temple seek Thy favor,
Jesus Christ, our Lord and King.
May we, body, soul, and spirit,
Live devoted to Thy praise,
Glorious realms of bliss inherit,
Grateful anthems ever raise.

(New Hymnal 64. 3.)

Questions. 1. Where did the Wise-men come from? 2. What did they ask about Jesus? 3. What had they seen, and what had they come to do? 4. What did Herod do? 5. What did the chief priests and scribes say to Herod? 6. What did Herod say to the Wise-men when he sent them to Bethlehem? 7. What led them? 8. When they found Mary and the child, what did they do? 9. Why did they not return to Herod?

Note. Emphasize Foreign Mission work. See Mt. 28. 16-20. The heathen need Christ but know Him not.—The gentile world is longing for Jesus. Apply Bible text. The star led the Wise-men, Gentiles, to Jesus. Our own Synod has missionaries in India, China, Africa and Porto Rico.

#### LESSON 49.

# THE DIACONATE, OR THE MINISTRY OF MERCY.



I commend unto you Phæbe our sister, who is a servant of the church that is at Cenchreæ—: that ye receive her in the Lord, worthily of the saints, and that ye assist her in whatsoever matter she may have need of you; for she herself also hath been a helper of many, and of mine own self. Rom. 16. 1—2.

BIBLE TEXT.

Pure religion and undefiled before our God and Father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world. Jas. 1. 27.

### MEMORY VERSE.

Still the weary, sick and dying
Need a brother's, sister's care;
On Thy higher help relying,
May we now their burden share,
Bringing all our offerings meet,
Suppliants at Thy mercy-seat.

(G. THRING.)

Questions. 1. Who is mentioned in this lesson? 2. In what church was Phoebe serving? 3. Had she ever helped anyone? 4. What is pure religion and undefiled before our God and Father?

Note. The Diaconate or Ministry of Mercy, is an office in the Church, established by the apostles and the early Christians. (Acts 6.) Very early in the Church, women were also used in the Ministry of Mercy, as we find in our lesson. Phoebe was a deaconess of the church at Cenchreae, and is, so far as we know, the first deaconess in the Church. The fields of deaconess work are: 1, Parish Work, visiting and caring for the sick, the poor and the depressed, distributing tracts, helping in Sunday School work and willingly going wherever the pastor may direct her. 2. Institutional work, hospital nursing, children's homes, homes for the aged, invalid homes, and homes for young women. 3. Foreign Mission work, working as a missionary among the heathen. A deaconess desires to serve the wretched in mercy, kindness, patience, longsuffering, and humility, endeavoring through physical aid to find the way to their hearts if she may win her wards for the Lord, warning against sin in holy zeal and longsuffering love, bringing them in prayer before the Lord, always mindful of the fact that the salvation of the soul is the aim and purpose of her work. Her labors are, however, not limited to those of her own creed, but embraces all nationalities and creeds, wherever her help may be needed. 1 Cor. 9. 19; Col. 3. 12; 1 Th. 5. 14; Rom. 12. 9, 21; Lk. 10. 36, 37. The Immanuel Deaconess Institute at Omaha, Nebraska, is owned and controlled by the Augustana Synod, and the Bethesda Deaconess Home at St. Paul, Minn., is owned and controlled by the Minnesota Conference.

### LESSON 50.

## HOMES FOR THE ORPHANS.



In that hour came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who then is greatest in the kingdom of heaven? And he called to him a little child and set him in the midst of them, and said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye turn and become as little children, ye shall in no wise enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is the greatest in the

kingdom of heaven. And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me; but whoso shall cause one of these little ones that believe on me to stumble, it is profitable for him that a great millstone should be hanged about his neck and that he should be sunk in the depth of the sea. See that ye despise not one of these little ones: for I say unto you, that in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father who is in heaven. How think ye? if any man have a hundred sheep and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine and go unto the mountains and seek that which goeth astray? And if so be that he find it, verily I say unto you, he rejoiceth over it more than over the ninety and nine which have not gone astray. Even so it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish. Mt. 18.

### BIBLE TEXT.

Even so it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish. Mt. 18. 14.

#### MEMORY VERSE.

Bless all who in the parents' stead Provide these little ones with bread; Bless all who shield with loving arms These helpless ones from all alarms.

ANNA HOPPE.

Questions. 1. What did the disciples ask Jesus? 2. What did Jesus do? 3. What did Jesus say that the disciples must do if they should enter the kingdom of heaven? 4. What did he say about "whoso shall receive one such little child in my name"? 5. What about "whoso shall cause one of these little ones to stumble"? 6. Why did Jesus say, See that ye despise not one of these little ones? 7. What does the man who has lost one of his sheep do? 8. What does he do if he finds it? 9. Even so, what is the will of your Father?

Note. Emphasize our duty to take care of the little ones, the orphans in general. Especially is it the duty of the Church to provide homes and institutions where children, whose parents cannot take care of them, or who have no parents or sponsors, can be taken care of and nurtured. Within the Augustana Synod and its Conferences are ten Orphans' Homes, owned and controlled either by the Synod or its Conferences; also some individual congregations have their own Orphans' Homes. See Minutes of Synod and Conferences and tell the children something about the Orphans' Home in which your Sunday School may be particularly interested.

# LESSON 51.

## HOMES FOR THE AGED.



And Elisha went up from thence unto Bethel, and as he was going up by the way there came forth young lads out of the city, and mocked him and said unto him, Go up, thou baldhead; go up, thou baldhead. And he looked behind him and saw them and cursed them in the name of Jehovah. And there came forth two she-bears out of the wood and tare forty and two lads of them. And he went from thence to Mount Carmel and from thence he returned to Samaria. 2 K. 2. 23-25.

# BIBLE TEXT.

Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head, and honor the face of the old man, and thou shalt fear thy God: I am Jehovah. Lev. 19. 32.

## MEMORY VERSE.

Lord, lead the way the Saviour went By lane and cell obscure; And let love's treasures still be spent Like His, upon the poor.

Like Him, through scenes of deep distress, Who bore the world's sad weight, We, in their crowded loneliness, Would seek the desolate.

(REV. WILLIAM CROSWELL.)

Questions. 1. What prophet is spoken of here? 2. Where was he going? 3. Who came out of the city? 4. What did the young lads do? 5. What did they say? 6. What did Elisha do? 7. What did the bears, that came out of the woods, do to the lads? 8. How many lads were killed? 9. Where did the prophet go from thence? 10. To what place did he return?

Note. Emphasize the thought expressed in the Bible text. God's curse will fall upon all who slight and dishonor old people. We should honor the aged and care for them. Especially must the Church provide for those who have no protection and care when old and feeble. The Augustana Synod, with its Conferences, has ten Homes for the Aged. Some old people pay for their care and up-keep at these homes, but many cannot pay and must be taken care of by the Church in special homes Old Christian people are the Church's precious jewels.

### LESSON 52.

### HOSPITALS.



And Jesus departed thence and came nigh unto the sea of Galilee; and he went up into the mountain and sat there. And there came unto him great multitudes, having with them the lame, blind, dumb, maimed, and many others, and they cast them down at his feet; and he healed them, insomuch that the multitude wondered, when they saw the dumb speaking, the maimed whole, and the lame walking, and the blind seeing; and they

glorified the God of Israel. Mt. 15. 29-31.

## BIBLE TEXT.

He hath done all things well; he maketh even the deaf to hear, and the dumb to speak. Mt. 7. 37.

### MEMORY VERSE.

"Remember them that are in bonds,"
Thy Word so gently pleadeth,
Thy mercy to our prayers responds,
Thy kindness intercedeth.
Fill us with love, Thou Love divine,
Toward all who in affliction pine,
Let us reflect Thy patience.

(Anna Hoppe.)

Questions. 1. Jesus came near unto what sea? 2. Where did He go to sit down? 3. Who came unto Him there? 4. Whom did the multitudes bring with them? 5. What did they do with the lame, blind, dumb, maimed and many others? 6. What did Jesus do to them? 7. Why did the multitude wonder? 8. Whom did they glorify?

Note. Hospital work is very important. Through her hospitals, the Church can serve the Lord in many ways. A hospital that is owned and controlled by the Church must do charity work. At the present time, our Synod and its Conferences have seven hospitals. See Minutes of Synod and Conferences.

